

OUR VOLUNTEER ARMY

FACTS AND FIGURES

42,000

Native-born recruits in
ONTARIO

25,000

The logical proportion for
QUEBEC

A Compilation of articles which have appeared in "LA PRESSE", Montreal, and dedicated to men of good will, who desire equality of justice for all Canadian races — With the compliments of this newspaper.

December, 14th, 1916.



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The EDITH *and* LORNE PIERCE
COLLECTION of CANADIANA



Queen's University at Kingston

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Recruiting Dissected

42,000 *native recruits only
from Ontario*

25,000 *the logical proportion for
the French-Canadians.*

(A Summary of the Editorials Published by LA PRESSE during the
Last Eighteen Months.)

**THE WHOLE CONTINGENT OF ONTARIO NATIVES NUMBERS
42,000—THE 25,000 FRENCH-CANADIAN RE-
CRUITS GIVES PROPORTIONATELY, A
LARGER PERCENTAGE.**

For two years, the Ontario newspapers have been heaping injuries on the French-Canadians, because they did not ostensibly supply Great Britain with as many soldiers as did the neighbouring province. Day by day, we have repelled these injuries, without having been able to stop their flow, because our remarks could not reach the English-speaking public. That is why, to-day, we make of them a summary intended for that public.

For long enough the Ontario press have been referring to the French-Canadians as "slackers" in the present war. The time has come for the confusion of our calumniators. The Ontario press always declined to notice or discuss the figures we placed before the public, nearly every day, for a whole year; but it persisted in hurling at us the most debasing remarks, as though the province of Quebec was not a part of the Canadian Confederation and was not entitled to the respect of its co-partners.

After all, what is being undertaken now is nothing less than a superhuman effort to rouse more than one-third of the native population against the other two-thirds; if we do not enjoy the same consideration as the other citizens of Canada, there is no reason why we

should maintain an association, the assets of which we have one-fourth: 50 votes out of 214; the current trade of which we increase by 34 2-3 per cent, since in the Confederation we are 2,054,890 against 3,871,414 English, Scotch and Irish.

Or, furthermore, if we place Ontario and Quebec together in the balance, we are 1,605,329 French-Canadians of Quebec against 1,813,000 English-speaking people of Ontario, as we must subtract 710,000 immigrants from all countries, as well as the French-Canadian contingent. The figures are nearly even; they are absolutely even if we subtract the 230,000 Catholic Irishmen.

Disgust is the greatest dissolvent power of any association. The partner who finds that he is openly scorned by his associates, will in the end hold them in abomination. When we are every day insulted by a section of the population which does not even go to the trouble of justifying their insults, we have the right to know if such undeserving treatment comes from a handful of demagogues who, like the Orangemen, live on their tattle and on their vituperations, or whether it is coming from a majority of the population.

* * *

There are two elements in an army: Firstly, the fighting element; secondly, the element which takes care of the fighters. Both are equally important; in fact, essential. Only, when there arises a military rivalry, a contest of superiority in zealousness between two provinces, the subject of contest is not between the auxiliaries, but between the champions themselves. Even the Toronto papers formally acknowledge that classification. They never fail to designate infantry, the active fighting force, by no other words than "**the Combatant Infantry Battalions.**"

The other classes of soldiers are, no doubt, more numerous; but they do not represent the same force of personal execution, of individual initiative, the same bravery of every hour, the same undauntedness of determination and of action. In the infantry, it is the soldier himself who is at once the machine and the operator of the machine in the first lines of danger; at the front, that is, in the grim surroundings of death. All other branches of the army are compelled, by duty and by order, to seek cover under protection of any kind.

Ontario is of recent formation, its entire population coming from the British Isles, where there is a nearly permanent state of war abroad. The population is familiar with everything armed, of which Quebec never heard. It is very natural it may think of entering these branches ignored by our population.

It is not in these branches that the military spirit is to be found. The twenty-two auxiliary specialties of an army can compare as well with an audacious sporting venture as with a participation in war.

They have the same attraction as fencing, shooting, gymnastics, racing, hunting, indeed, in all the fascination of the unknown.

But, the duty of the infantry is fighting pure and simple. The French-Canadian sees in it nothing but the effort necessary for the destruction of an enemy, with even chances of being killed by him.

On that ground of real fighting, the French-Canadians are at least represented in as large numbers as the sons of Ontario who are shedding their blood for the Empire.

For the 22 auxiliary branches of the army, Quebec is not similar to Ontario, because its population has been brought up differently. Born and reared in an era of peace, of which the centenary was celebrated a few years ago, it is absolutely ignorant of all the crafts of war and their accessories. Apart of a select few who have been with our permanent regiments and through the military schools, the population has not even a notion of what is a gunner, a bombardier, a sapper, a pontonier, etc., or of all the other auxiliary services operating in the remoteness of the battlefield and whose security is the first aim of an army.

When a French-Canadian enlists, he intends to fight. He has it in his blood in spite of a century of rest, during which the twenty-two auxiliary branches were lost sight of.

We do not pretend that Quebec has shown a very great zeal; **what we pretend** is that Ontario did not make a better showing since its recruiting resources of born-abroad and its surplus of Canadian-born unmarried is exhausted. Recruiting is just as slow in Ontario as in Quebec, and even slower, and we are about to prove it.

To begin with, not one day passes without injuries being hurled at our military indifference by Ontario papers. When some preachers whose pretensions can be compared to their ignorance of politics, take a hand into it the concert rises to the tone of a riot. In a certain centre, it has been established that the French-Canadians are doing nothing in the war; and on the strength of such foolishness, all kinds of pert untruths are circulated.

It is always the story of the mote in one's eye and the straw in that of his neighbor. Reading the articles or the speeches coming from the Haughty Province, one would imagine that all its population was up in arms and ready to participate in the horrible drama. If it must be understood that Quebec is doing so little, it must also infer that the upper province is doing wonders.

When the 134th of Toronto left for overseas service, in July last, we knew through newspapers of the Queen City that it was her 13th regiment. Thirteen battalions, that means 15,000 men in all. And Toronto is rightly proud of having contributed 86,000 soldiers to the Canadian force. Therefore, it means that it has only 17 per 100 of its men in the **combatant force**.

Ontario is more inclined towards secondary co-operation, which Lord Northcliffe described with enthusiasm in the Times of the 7th

instant as **"the army of workers behind the lines, larger than the expeditionary army.** It is a force which commands all our admiration, and which has a decisive importance **in the war** but not **in the debate** on the compared virility and combativeness of Ontario and Quebec. It is not **the army.**

After the percentage of 28½, authoritatively ascribed by Senator Mason to Ontario natives having enlisted, Toronto is represented in the trenches by five battalions, comprising 5,700 men, of whom 1,660 are native infantrymen. The French-Canadians exceed that number with their 2,500 men of the first contingent, their 1,200 of the 22nd, and the 910 of the 69th. **It means that French Montreal alone has the lead, MAN FOR MAN, on Canadian-English Toronto. There is no escape to that conclusion, except, no doubt, through unfair and contemptible aspersions.**

* * *

The pronounced difference in enlistment, in favor of Ontario, is easily explained. It is due to five concurrent causes which render the gap inevitable:

1. The deep mortification and the insult resulting from the anti-French movement of Ontario and Manitoba;
2. The placing of all the recruiting organization in the hands of English-speaking officers who do not take account of the French-Canadian temper;
3. The large proportion of Ontario citizens born in the British Isles;
4. The proportion of unmarried men, which is larger in Ontario than in Quebec;
5. The disparity of the rural population against Quebec.

I

WHAT COMMUNITY WOULD NOT BE DISGUSTED IF IT HAD TO STAND FOR WHAT QUEBEC STANDS FOR FROM ONTARIO?

After having created an opinion hostile to English institutions, the authors of all the trouble are endeavoring to arraign the victims of their plots as being responsible for their misdeeds. Here we have a brave and peaceful French population ready to accept without the least hesitation, as Gospel truth, the affirmation that Great Britain is the protector of all its British liberties, and which at the first complication is brutally told that all the treaties and the pacts it invokes are repudiated. On the 2nd of June, 1914, the News took it upon itself to disillusion our fellow-citizens about their political security, in the following terms:

IT IS NOT AT ALL CERTAIN THAT THE ARGUMENT (the treaties) WOULD BE UPHELD BY ANY JUDGE! EVEN IF THE TEXT WAS CLEAR AND UNEQUIVOCAL. The letter of the law needs the help of the Bench to BE ADAPTED TO UNFORESEEN CIRCUMSTANCES. ONE HUNDRED YEAR OLD TREATIES MUST BE INTERPRETED AT THE LIGHT OF NEW CIRCUMSTANCES. . . . There is one sure thing, it is that the sentiment of Ontario will not change. It is an English province, and English it will remain as it has always been since the beginning. The French-Canadians coming here ought to know that. They must understand that the organization and the system of this province can not and will not be altered for their sake. French will be taught in schools as is GERMAN, as a subject of culture. It shall not be a part of the Public School except with the teaching of English. In the schools of the province, English shall be the language of communication, as is done in the German section of the province and as it MUST BE IN THE FRENCH SECTION.

Very simply, we are here placed on the same footing as the Germans.

And which is the honest population that would not dread this violent outburst of the Sentinel, with the following appeal against French-Canadians under the signature of John Puttenham? Civil war is referred to in unequivocal terms:

"This bilingual agitation in Ottawa must be crushed. It is time for our Government to quit fooling with these traitors and make them obey British law. It is time to demand that our Government expel out of British territory those forty thousand wicked monks and nuns who are training the French-Canadian youth to become rebels against our British Empire. There can never be any truce with Rome. She must be kept down or she will put us down. We must prepare for a coming conflict with these French traitors, and the sooner we face the issue the better for our Dominion. Britain must rule Canada, as she, thank God, rules the waves.

"JOHN PUTTENHAM."

It is obvious that there can be found no patriotic vibrations in the soul of a community when the chords of enthusiasm have been destroyed.

The history of the 1775 Treaty of Cession and of that of 1812 is repeating itself word for word.

The then aggressors used the same arms: contempt and disparagement; their victims showed the same magnanimity. The miracle of fidelity which prevented the old French-Canadians from opening their eyes to the presence of a French army on the side of the rebels, and the possibility of immediately shaking off the yoke of an irritating domination is repeating itself, in these days, and should bring to the lips of the honest and intelligent Englishmen, who are the majority, that very exclamation of regret voiced by Carleton on March 6, 1768:

"It was a great calamity for the colony of Quebec that there were sent there some ignorant and interested men who swerved entirely from the intentions of the King and made of him an instrument of cruelty and oppression for his subjects."

Ontario itself has given us a striking example of what may be

caused by a disappointment, an annoyance in the manifestation of its loyalty. We find the demonstration of it in the Toronto Telegram. The recruits of Ontario did not want to come to Valcartier. If the small inconvenience of training in another province tampered with the enlistment of young Ontarians, what is to be thought of our population which is still-flushed at the outrageous affront and whose most sacred rights are outraged by the men in power and by the papers that form public sentiment?

Read well this confession of the Toronto Telegram, Saturday, March 3, 1915:

VALCARTIER, or rather the very name of VALCARTIER, is an impediment to recruiting in this city and province. . . . The rumor that Toronto and Ontario recruits are to be marooned at VALCARTIER ALL SUMMER should be promptly and authoritatively denied. . . . Ontario men are ready to sacrifice themselves. Ontario wives are ready to sacrifice their husbands, Ontario children are ready to sacrifice their fathers, Ontario mothers and fathers their sons to serve the needs of great causes, not the needs of small men.

If the existence of the British Empire and the safety of liberty demanded that military units recruited in Ontario or Toronto should spend ten summers at Valcartier, Ontario recruits and Toronto recruits would be ready for the sacrifice. The existence of the British Empire and the safety of liberty make no such demand.

The VALCARTIER theory is being quietly mentioned and must prove more and more detrimental to recruiting.

The zeal of these men, these women and these whose children are prepared to shed their blood and sacrifice their life does not go as far as Valcartier. The only prospect of training at Valcartier IS AN IMPEDIMENT TO RECRUITING IN THIS CITY (TORONTO) AND PROVINCE (ONTARIO.)

After that, how can they accuse Quebec, which is still bleeding by a fresh wound in its live flesh?

We would be counted as impostors if we said the contrary. After all, our English-speaking fellow-citizens would be the first to disillusion us should we enunciate the theory that we all are of the same blood, the same ancestry, the same family. Too often Ontario wants to impose on us the part of Cinderella and we cannot afford to shut our eyes to the light of real facts.

* * *

While the Toronto papers were spurning us with all their might, they were also crowing high that not more than 4,000 French-Canadians had gone to the war. On the 21st of August, the Sentinel said:

"When the Quebec apologists claim that they have 15,000 enlisted recruits, they may be right. But when we take account of deserters, absentees and those we never hear from, it may be said that there is not more than three or four thousand French-Canadians at the war. . . ."

The story of the French-Canadian battalions includes a great disgrace. They enlist in retail and desert in wholesale.

And on the 31st of August:

"In three weeks, 806 men had to be struck off the ranks of the 57th.

It is the same with all the French-Canadian battalions. When it is announced that they have 14,000 recruits it is true; but when the absentees are counted out, it could be said safely that there are not 4,000 at the war. The directors of the Patriotic Fund have paid tens of thousands of dollars to families of which the heads have deserted. It is the same thing with the separation allowance. They deserted as soon as their battalions were ready to sail overseas."

And on the 14th of September:

"The French-Canadians remained at home while the English-Canadians went fighting in Europe. The population of Quebec who did not want to fight for Canada shall not have the right to govern Canada."

On September the 18th, the Kingston Standard said:

"The French-Canadians used the treacherous methods of the Hun. They will find that Hun imitators are not tolerated within the confines of the Empire."

On August 29th last, the Standard (Kingston) was throwing us out of the Empire in the following terms:

"Canadian soldiers and their friends must not vote shoulder to shoulder with the racialist neutrals of Quebec and the Austro-Germans of Alberta and Saskatchewan, who hate England."

On September 13, it added:

"The one million population of New Zealand is all recruitable as New Zealand is exclusively of British origin. It is not the same with Canada, of which 3,000,000 out of 8,000,000 is of French of Quebec or Austro-German origin."

The Toronto News, in its issue of August, the 19th, said:

"It is true, we believe, that the French ecclesiastics oppose recruiting in Quebec. It is not only a few cures that are hostile. The feeling extends from cures to bishops and from bishops to archbishops. Certain appeals have been made in order to disarm criticism in English-speaking communities, but unquestionably the influence of the Quebec clergy has been exercised to prevent recruiting. It is said that only two or three cures in the whole Province favor participation of Quebec in the war and that in cases spiritual penalties have been threatened when young men have shown a determination to enlist.

"Since the war began they have written only another chapter in the long conspiracy to dominate Canada. The dream of reconquest and of ascendancy they never have abandoned. They have made race serve religion and religion serve race. All that could be done they have done to preserve the French language and to discourage the spread of English, no matter what handicaps this may have imposed upon their people. They are directing migration into Ontario and into the Western Provinces. Everywhere they are seeking out strategic positions and consolidating their political influence.

"Ever since Confederation they have dominated at Ottawa. Successive political leaders have bowed to "the solid vote." The Constitution is treated with contempt where French racial interests are concerned. In the general

election of five years ago Mr. Bourassa and his Provincialists hoped to elect a group to which both parties in Parliament would have to submit. Sir Robert Borden refused submission, extended the boundaries of Manitoba, produced the naval policy, committed Canada to the war and refused to disallow the bilingual regulations of Ontario. As a result his Government has incurred the unrelenting hostility of the French group, of which Sir Wilfrid Laurier, in contempt of all high national and Imperial considerations, made himself the mouthpiece in Parliament.

"The French extremists rejoice that so many battalions cross the sea from the English Provinces. They are indifferent to the losses and sacrifices of the English-speaking people. They remember only that in proportion as the English Provinces suffer and sacrifice Quebec will be politically stronger. They believe that they can coalesce with Germans and Austrians. They know that they will have the support of a docile element of English-speaking Liberals. They hope, by uniting these groups, to govern Canada, whose free institutions have been preserved by the blood of English-speaking Canadians. They plot to defeat any movement for closer Imperial unity, which should be the natural result of common sacrifices in France and Flanders. This is the plain reading of the situation in Canada and unless English-speaking Canadians unite against an insidious and resolute conspiracy Quebec Nationalism will be enthroned at Ottawa, with Sir Wilfrid Laurier as its servant and with the future of Canada at its mercy."

And on August 25, speaking of the French-Canadians:

"We believe it is the resolve of this country that those who will not fight for Canada shall not govern Canada and that those who seek to weaken the influence of Canada in the Empire in time of war shall not be permitted to determine the relations between the Dominion and the Mother Country in time of peace."

On September 6, it said:

"If the French-Canadians, by their refusal to serve place themselves in a class with Germans and Austrians, how can their resistance be overcome? The Government cannot force a whole province dominated by racial agitators and countenanced and encouraged by Sir Wilfrid Laurier himself. It belongs to the English-Canadians to see to it that in the future that province which was too proud to fight, shall not be too large a political power."

We have given but a small idea of the whirlwind of injustices unleashed by a certain section of the Ontario press loaded with undescrivable filth and developing an incitement to civil war and annexation to the United States as a last refuge. Where is in Toronto the daily paper which opposed this movement of demolition? Instead of being opposed, it was supported by thousands of firebrands and undisguised challenges. It seems that it was in such a spirit that was welcomed in August the following remarks of General Turner:

"People are asking what would in case of serious troubles happen the French-Canadians and the other Canadians; really, I believe it would be something terrible for the other parts of Canada. With men like those who are serving under me, I should think the French-Canadians would soon cease to have their own way."

Here is a direct appeal to civil war.

Once only were the Toronto papers stirred up; this was when

La Presse provoked beyond endurance by the boastings of Ontario on one part, and by the vilifying of Quebec on the other, accused the ostentatious province of adorning itself with the peacocks' feathers. The Globe criticised the insult.

We must say that in more than one instance it showed itself fair to the Province of Quebec; but this time, the 18th of September, yielding to the prejudices roused by other papers, it protested against our qualification of Ontario, without giving forth any fact that could interfere with the strength of the figures we had published.

Distant is our intention of blaming our confrere for having been placed in such painful straits when it said:

"La Presse of Montreal, in a series of articles on 'The Jay Which Decks Itself in Peacock's Feathers,' has been discussing the recruiting question in a way that must inevitably **add greatly**, as though the defence of victims was a provocation to the growing estrangement between Ontario and Quebec. It is natural that the people of Quebec should in a way that must inevitably **add greatly** (*comme si les victimes pouvaient faire de la provocation en se défendant!*) to the growing estrangement between Ontario and Quebec. It is natural that the people of Quebec should seek to defend themselves from the statement frequently made in the Press of this Province that the French-Canadians have not taken the part in the war which their allegiance and their racial origin seemed to require. The fact cannot be hid that Quebec, with a population of over two million people, **has given a scant forty thousand men to fight for freedom, of whom not less than half were contributed by the small English-speaking minority in the Province, WHILE ONTARIO HAS GIVEN OVER A HUNDRED AND FIFTY THOUSAND.**

No suggestion has been made in any quarter, so far as The Globe knows, that the failure of the French-Canadians to offer for service in larger numbers is due to lack of courage. The glorious achievements of the soldiers of France, whose blood-brothers they are, and the splendid gallantry of the French-Canadian regiments that have been in action at the front, forbid such a base suggestion. It is not fear of the hazards of battle that keeps the habitant upon his farm. The explanations given are that he is largely a dweller in the country, far from the influences that sweep the men of the cities into the ranks; that his connection with France, being of the remote past, no longer stirs his blood, and that he is strongly opposed to taking part in any war except upon his native soil for the defence of Canada. No one can take offence when the defenders of the French-Canadian people state in courteous language their reasons for not enlisting in greater numbers.

The articles on the jay which decks itself in peacock's feathers are of a very different order. In that of Tuesday last the charge of cowardice and shirking is brought against the people of Ontario. It is suggested that the dangerous part of the service has been left to the immigrants who fill the ranks of the infantry and mounted infantry regiments, and that the men of Ontario do their fighting thus by proxy. We are told that "as they pay well the immigrants enrolled they imagine that their money very effectively replaces their persons." That is a very gross insult and a great falsehood. To say, as La Presse says elsewhere in the same article, that the majority of Ontario's 150,000 recruits are of the non-combatant classes, and constitute what Lord Northcliffe recently spoke of as "the army behind the army," is especially cruel and heartless at a time when hundreds of names of men of Ontario birth and upbringing are again appearing in the daily lists of killed, wounded, and missing."

The Toronto Globe hinted that the courage of the French-Canadians had never been questioned. Nevertheless, the Sentinel of July 3 said:

"French-Canadians have no heart for war. They are a peaceable people. We are not surprised if they have not the military inclination. It is the distinction of men of initiative. BUT THE CLERGY HAVE DESTROYED THEIR INITIATIVE.

" . . . The French-Canadian never thinks by himself. In every important circumstance he asks the advice of his superiors. He has come down to the condition of a human machine."

We ask the question: what public interest is serving a large province like Ontario when it is constantly provoking disgust and justified exasperation on the part of another province just as strong, and with which the cordial co-operation is necessary for the development of Confederation? If Quebec, like all that is human, has some possible faults to account for, there should be some brotherly way of reminding her, instead of having recourse to all the methods suggested by hatred and disunion?

We are on the defensive and we are compelled to turn their own weapons against our opponents. But it is well understood that Quebec is never attacking Ontario in whom she would like to find all the time a well-wishing companion and friend. We never denounced her lack of zeal for enlistment, in spite of her surplus of unmarried and of city-dwellers. We know that every one in Canada is subject to the laws of labor and that every few can escape it without exposing their dependants to all kinds of hardships.

The agitators who are behaving so unceremoniously towards us, aiming simply at discord and mutual aversion, forget to practice with others the justification by which they are so happy to profit.

The Toronto Globe found insulting and false the article of La Presse accusing Ontario of decking herself with the peacock's plumes. We resented as painfully as their confrere of Ontario this injury to the sister-province. As to false qualifications, he knew very well that it could not be applied to our remarks, all of which are kept within the strictest limits of truth. If sometimes we are carried to conclusions that might be considered cruel and pitiless, it is precisely because the Ontario papers elude carefully any admission of the fact, thought as clear as daylight, that three-fourth of their contingent are composed of immigrants.

II.

IF, AT LEAST, SOMETHING HAD BEEN FOUND THAT COULD NEUTRALIZE THAT DELETERIOUS LABOR!

It is a quite a difficult proposition to give our people under a sensible form an abstract idea of the meaning of the German menace, the consequences of which are more apparent in the political and commercial rivalries of a neighbor state than in the rude theories without any immediate application, at a distance of 3,000 miles. Did our population ever suspect the possibility of Teuton vandalism, or even the existence of the Pan-Germanist dreams?

Something else than khaki uniforms worn by unknown parties was required to stimulate a rush of our population. But the change came in the scenery. By a slow process, Truth has made its way and it is now acknowledged that the present war is a fight of civilization against armed brutality, but such truth had to be explained to people who were not interested in the commercial and industrial struggle. Known voices alone can inspire a real idea of danger. We like to know our scouts and our sentries; we understand better their warnings and their calls than those of unfamiliar voices.

And when it is a question of fight and battle, we like to share in the glory attached to it. The fascination of the profession of arms comes from the leadership of chiefs who make a name for themselves and their soldiers. Not one French-Canadian chief was appointed. One battalion could make its mark in that all-English situation, this was the 22nd. Other ones which followed lost their identity in England or in France.

It is sufficient to point out that in the midst of provocations, which were broadcast, nothing was done to appeal to the French soul as much as to the English soul. The colors and the pictures filling with content and admiration the heart and the imagination of other fellow-citizens were not displayed for us. All that figured in the present organization was a staff quite exclusively English, and which, though esteemed and respected by the French citizens, was not enough to inflame the son of another race.

How many French-Canadians are holding superior positions with the general staffs, and the presence of whom could spread enthusiasm and civic ardor, as is the fact for the majority? Our few compatriots that could be mentioned are so restricted and so circumscribed as to be a source of discouragement.

III

HOW IMMIGRANTS SWELLED ONTARIO'S RECRUITING.

Because their apparent volume of recruits is inferior to that of Ontario, which insists on that comparison and takes pride in it, there is a general idea that French-Canadians do not want to enlist and take their share in this war. But when a small province like Manitoba or Saskatchewan gives results that would be humiliating for Ontario, the latter says "that it is not wise to divide Canada into sections." There is no profit in it, "except when the difference has a signification, as for instance, Quebec." (The Toronto Mail on Nov. 23, 1916, said:)

Here is the text itself:

"There is no particular wisdom in dividing Canada into two sections, East and West. Thousands of the men who enlisted in the Western provinces were Ontario-born, or came from the Maritime Provinces. Thousands of those who have enlisted in the East are really Britishers. The

West has a large proportion of foreigners, to whom no call could be made, but so has the East. Hamilton, for instance, has a very large proportion of foreigners, and its ratio of enlistment, per thousand of eligible men, is one of the highest in the Dominion. Under such circumstances, figures based on general population are apt to be misleading. The West has done splendidly in recruiting. Based on general population figures, it can show considerably higher rates of recruiting, but a comparison based on numbers of men of military age does not show its average to be particularly better than that of Ontario. As a province, Ontario is about 20,000 short of its proportionate number of the half million, while the four Western provinces are about 30,000 short. But little is to be gained, as we said before, by such particularization.

"Only when a section of Canada falls vastly short of requirements, as Quebec has done, does sectional comparison have much significance. ("Mail," Nov. 23).

It is surely remarkable that Manitoba, Alberta and Saskatchewan, with a population of 1,322,709, supplied 139,800 soldiers, or nearly $10\frac{1}{2}$ per 100, while the 2,523,274 inhabitants of Ontario supplied only 169,900, or only $6\frac{1}{2}$ per 100.

The patriotism of Ontario would appear to be lagging behind. If only those two sections were compared, without any other explanations, Ontario could be pointed at with contempt.

But the Mail gives the explanation that covers its province: "The West has a large proportion of foreigners."

That means that Manitoba, Saskatchewan and Alberta have STILL MORE immigrants than Ontario to swell their recruiting.

It is time to invoke in favor of Ontario a fact that is carefully concealed when it must apply to Quebec. But when she needs it, Ontario admits the great influence of immigration on enlistment, and she cannot escape that.

* * *

Is it quite conceivable that there are so few Ontario natives fighting in the trenches?

It does not seem conceivable that there are as many French-Canadians as there are Ontario natives fighting in the trenches. The proportion seems an impossibility when one knows that Ontario has sent 150,000 recruits, and the French Canadians only 20,000. Nevertheless, it is the truth. La Presse and other confreres, as well as a number of eminent citizens of English language, have established beyond all doubt, that out of the 150,000 Ontario recruits, there are 108,000 English immigrants, cutting down to 42,000 the number of native recruits.

We hold that information from the Toronto papers which kept us posted, day by day, on the infantry enlistments of their division. We publish these statistics for the last six months as taken from the columns of the Mail, to which any one is free to refer.

On the 15th of May, the general reports on enlistment gave a total of 326,640 recruits; 135,278 for Ontario, Toronto being given for 73,000. Everybody knows how Senator Mason, a soldier, who

had had access to Government documents, made in the Upper House, the share of natives and of immigrants in the improvised army to be 37,884 for the native borns; 94,394 for the immigrants. Now, we have 347,407 recruits, of whom 153,000 go to the credit of Ontario, the native born numbering 42,847. In six months the all-round recruiting in Toronto district jumped from 73,500 to 83,319, an increase of 9,819.

There is not sufficient disproportion between the English and the French natives born in Canada, to justify the first ones to look down upon the other ones. They are three millions against two millions. It is exactly three-fifths against two-fifths. Here is how Brigadier-General Senator Mason stated the facts before the Senate, May 4, 1916:

I find, as a result of inquiries made at HEADQUARTERS, and from the census return, . . . that the French-Canadian born are two millions and the English-Canadian born about three millions. . . . I estimate the French born as being two-fifths of the five millions and the remaining three-fifths English born. The following table shows the numbers. (Pages 457 and 458 of "Hansard").

	Census of 1911. Males, 18-45.	Enlisted.	Proportion of Members en- listed to total number.	Proportion as to total Enlistment
Canadian-born (English)...	667,000	85,000	About 13%	28½%
Canadian-born (French)...	445,000	12,000	About 3	4½%
		(This in- cludes French battalions or French names in other bat- talions)		
United Kingdom or British- born	307,000	180,000	60%	61%
Foreign-born	306,000	18,000	6%	6%
Total enlistment to March, 1916.....		295,000		
Racial proportion of the population.		Total Males, 18.45		Of which
French-Canadian	2,000,000			
English-Canadian	3,000,000	445,000		2-5 French
United Kingdom born	1,000,000	667,000		
Foreign	1,250,000	307,000		3-5 English
		306,000		
Total		1,725,000		

Long before Senator Mason's revelations, the Toronto Globe had said, Oct. 2, 1915:

Recruiting up to the present time falls somewhat short of 160,000, or slightly less than four per cent. of the male population, as compared with over 16 per cent. in Great Britain. . . . It is doubtful if 30,000 native-born Canadians have yet gone abroad to take their part in the earth-shaking struggle. Canada, particularly eastern Canada, must do more, and will do more if the call of duty is sounded in the ears of her generous and high-spirited sons.

Now that we have a safe and official method of calculating the willingness of population for the army, we know that out of her contingent of 83,319, Toronto supplied 23,334 native-born.

We know also that in the last six months, Toronto supplied 2,748 plucky fellows to add to the Canadian legions, or 28½ per

cent. of the 9,189. Some reserves could possibly be made out of that 9,189 for a territory going as far as Lake Nipissing. The city and district of Toronto supplied 3,219 recruits from June 15, 1916, according to the information published by Toronto papers. The 28½ per cent. in six months have only 901 native-born recruits for the boasting and fault-finding city.

In the impossibility of denying that, the Toronto News, Jan. 25, claimed for Ontario the credit of the immigrants. It said:

"We are told that only the native-born is to be set against the native-born of Quebec. It is a grossly unfair requirement. If a man born in England, Scotland or Ireland lived ten or twelve years in Canada previous to the war would he not be a Canadian? Is not the West full of Englishmen who faced the hardships of pioneer life in order to become Canadians? Why then must we "write off" the British-born Canadians who are upon our military attestation papers?

Mr. Justice Riddell is the latest of our public men to sing the Quebec song, to tune his trumpet after that of *Le Devoir*. He says that Quebec has done well, that if the British-born recruits were eliminated, Quebec has done as well as Ontario. Such a statement is untrue and mischievous.

"If this question of enlistment were some ordinary political question, like the adjustment of a money assessment, one could understand a desire among politicians and ex-politicians to be all tenderness and sweetness towards the defaulter. But this is not a question of money. It is a question of blood. The French Province has dinned its British loyalty into our ears for many, many years. How many times we have heard about "the firing of the last gun" in defence of the British flag no tongue can tell. Now, when the issue comes—straight, clear, inescapable—now, when the flag is endangered, Quebec enlists so few men that she must make some sort of apology. Mr. Justice Riddell does not serve the Province of Quebec or the cause of Canadian unity by pretending that he can see figures which do not exist."

If the contingent of 185,000 credited to Ontario comprised only 42,000 native-born recruits, how many native-born recruits should have made up the contingent ascribed to Quebec? The answer is very simple: 31,550. But here it is the French-Canadians who are being tried and they are only 80 per cent. of the population of the province, or 1,665,329 out of 2,003,232, and their proportion in the contingent should be 25,240, or 80 per cent. of the 31,500.

There is no argument that can change the mathematical truth of these figures.

Under what law could we be expected to do more than Ontario? By what right can Ontario have the credit of the immigrants?

It is true that those immigrants form a good scenery in the background, but they are like the glitter in a show-window, or as peacock's feathers on the back of a jay, false pretences and inflated figures in a balance sheet, or error substituted to truth.

Politicians will kick and cry that Ontario is being slandered; but they cannot speak truth fully in concealment. We have gone to the trouble of tabulating the daily reports published by the Toronto Mail, giving first the number of recruits and that of those enlisted in the infantry. Here is the table, which is undeniable and very eloquent:

DAILY REPORT OF THE TORONTO MAIL AS TO THE PROGRESS OF RECRUITING.

June.	Total.	In- fan- try	August.	Total.	In- fan- try	Sept.	Total.	In- fan- try	Dec.	Total	In- fan- try
15	25	10	1	21	0	18	36	7	3	16	3
16	41	10	2	24	1	19	16	2	4	4	0
17	22	6	3	13	2	20	13	6	6	8	0
19	51	22	4	32	4	21	13	1	7	36	5
20	33	12	5	18	1	22	12	1	8	11	1
21	34	20	7	0	0	23	3	2	9	15	0
22	29	10	8	50	9	25	25	2	10	12	1
23	30	11	9	29	4	26	24	4	11	14	0
24	31	18	10	35	6	27	23	4	13	24	0
26	54	14	11	27	1	28	13	1	14	15	4
27	27	13	12	7	4	29	18	4	15	10	0
28	37	16	14	35	10	30	5	0	16	14	2
29	27	10	15	25	4	October.					
30	20	14	16	18	1	2	26	7	17	13	2
July.			17	25	3	3	13	1	18	5	3
3	57	17	18	18	2	4	28	4	20	31	3
4	56	15	19	13	2	5	4	0	21	6	0
5	34	10	21	38	1	6	7	2	22	8	1
6	48	30	22	33	2	7	9	6	23	10	0
7	35	9	23	16	2	8	12	3	24	15	3
8	25	4	24	14	4	9	9	6	25	6	2
10	53	10	25	19	2	10	20	5	27	17	3
11	16	4	26	5	1	11	15	5	28	14	2
12	41	3	28	21	2	12	7	4	29	8	1
13	11	4	29	9	0	13	15	4	30	14	3
14	30	9	30	11	2	14	7	1	December.		
15	8	3	31	17	0	16	25	2	1	14	2
17	33	6	September.			17	22	4	2	13	5
18	30	7	1	17	3	18	9	1	4	20	4
19	22	4	2	12	2	19	11	4	5	14	2
20	13	2	3	13	1	20	10	6	6	14	0
21	17	0	4	16	2	21	6	8	7	14	3
22	16	3	5	22	4	23	23	8	8	24	3
24	34	5	6	23	4	24	13	1	9	15	0
25	28	2	7	38	5	25	14	2	11	27	6
26	28	4	8	12	2	26	7	1	12	15	0
27	18	1	9	47	6	27	15	1	13	19	4
28	28	3	11	21	5	28	15	0	14	13	1
29	18	2	12	18	1	30	25	6	Total 3219		
31	39	3	13	13	0	31	12	3	Native		
			16	7	1	November.			Infantry		
						1	30	3	647		
						2	15	2	181		

The large and arrogant district of Toronto could not give more than 181 recruits in six months to the combatants supporting all the weight of the war, as we can see by the daily casualty lists. Artillery, engineering and all the other services do not occupy in the papers 15 per cent. of the space given to casualties with the infantry.

We understand why the infantry battalions recruiting in Toronto are so slow in filling their ranks, when they can be filled. On the 20th of April, six infantry regiments were recruiting: the Buffs, the Beavers, the Irish-Canadians, the Bantams, the Toronto Light Infantry, and the Missaugas. In spite continuous and of methodical advertising in all the Toronto papers, only one out of the six reached the number required. At the last inspection, Nov. 10, nearly seven months later, the six regiments had the following standing:

	April 20	November 10
Mississaugas	756	Complete
Bufs	750	1,044
Toronto Light Infantry	367	Dissolved
Beavers	628	971
Irish-Canadians	477	791
Bantams	455	865

In April, 2,467 men were needed to give each regiment its 1,200; 647 only could be found. One-half of the shortage is still to be filled.

* * *

People who display such a backwardness take the liberty of lecturing the French-Canadians who, during the same time, have sent 750 recruits to the 60th, for reinforcements to the 22nd in England; 250 men to the 105th; 40 men to the 117th; 100 men to the 171st; 400 men to the 171st; 30 men to the 199th; 150 men to the 130th; 350 men to the 139th; besides the 1,780 in the brigade of Lt.-Col. Leduc at Valcartier; the 1,100 with Lt.-Col. Desrosiers at Bermuda, and 600 to the 77th of Ottawa, all infantry units.

These 5,558 French-Canadian recruits should compare all right with the 647 of Toronto.

It should not be forgotten that the French-Canadians have already given 2,500 to the infantry in the first contingent, according to a statement of Sir Sam Hughes, 4,000 more went to the 22nd, the 41st, a large part of the 69th and the 57th, making in all more than 9,350 French-Canadians now in the trenches, or about to go into them, if not already in a grave of glory.

When the 134th left for the front, in July, the papers mentioned with pride that it was the thirteenth infantry regiment sent to the front by Toronto; it was 15,000 men in all, which meant 4,200 Ontario-born Canadians.

Were we not right in saying that there were as many, if not more French-Canadians as native-born Torontonians in the trenches?

There cannot be a question of effrontery or of gratuitous affirmation. Any one can verify our figures. But no Ontario paper has the right to refuse them without giving its reasons why. That is why we are now appealing to the honesty of mind and the impartiality and the righteousness of the Ontario population. We expect them to give us justice as is giving it the cool and straight Englishman who is the strength of the Empire, who is binding its parts and keeping them bound through fair play and united by the idea of a common equity.

As British subjects, we have the right to know if Fair Play is a meaningless word or the imposing reality that is the ideal of a great nation.

The evidence we offer is clear, all of it was taken in the Ontario papers.

It has but one aim: that is, not to prove that Quebec has done all that was possible for recruitment, but that ONTARIO DID NOT DO BETTER.

* * *

If we place Montreal by comparison with Toronto, it is because these are the two representative districts and over all, the only two on which we have precise datas. As said lately a correspondent of a confrere:

Where did those Canadian-eaters get their statistics to be enabled to calculate within a decimal the percentage of enlisting for each province, to the detriment of the French element?

For them as well as for us, there is only one source of exact information: the enlistment lists as published by the Militia Department.

Then, there is a something which is scarcely known. For months Liberal members of Parliament have been trying to have a look at those lists, and up to date, their efforts have failed.

At Quebec, all we could gather, by investigation, was an unsorted collection of lists upon which do not figure the first 78 battalions of infantry. At the offices of the Patriotic Fund, it was impossible to find a full list of the first contingent, and that after two years. Then, is it because it is intended to show only the lists of western regiments where the French element is naturally in a large majority?

In a few words we are being refused access to official documents which our detractors pretend to have seen and on which they base their abuse of us.

We are deprived of our means of defence while the pack of hounds is let loose at us.

To strike a disabled man is the "Boche" manner of fighting.

But we get our ammunition from our detractors. Take the Toronto Telegram, Sept. 13, disguising a great truth under a flow of spite without any signification:

"Too much Montreal! Too much toadying to Quebec!

"So say **all the soldiers** from Ontario. Utterly sick are they of a state of affairs wherein Ontario supplies all the men and Montreal, the city of head offices, and it's mother province, the abiding-place of the slacker, get all the credit.

"Ever since Canadian soldiers set foot on English soil has Montreal been pampered. Unbridled favoritism toward Montreal has marked the action of the Canadian military chiefs all through. The West and Ontario, but most especially Toronto, have been the goat."

ONTARIO 44, QUEBEC 12.

"Up to a certain date—and be it said that the ratio since then has become yet far more unfavorable to Quebec Province—Ontario has raised and sent overseas no less than **44 complete infantry battalions**, to say nothing of artillery, engineers, army service, medical units, etc.

"Quebec Province, out of her population of two millions and a half, has, beyond a moderate contribution to the other foregoing units, supplied the magnificent total of **12 infantry battalions**.

"And yet the city of Montreal has its place at the front, while Toronto, drained dry by her patriotism, is permitted but five battalions on the firing line.

MONTREAL RESERVES SCARCE.

"But what of reserves for these Montreal battalions? The list shows 28 reserve battalions for Ontario, but only four for Quebec. And of these four please note that "three are set aside for the sole purpose of reinforcing the French-Canadian regiments. Thus, upon one solitary base battalion devolves the duty of filling the gaps in the eight Montreal regiments.

"Quebec whose utter lack of recruits is only magnified the more when contrasted WITH THE SPLENDID WORK THOSE FEW FRENCH-CANADIANS IN THE FIELD HAVE DONE—all honor to them, worthy sons of the Dominion—Quebec must be truckled to. For though pusillanimous in war, is she not all-powerful at the polls?

"Witness the figures:

HOW PROVINCES COMPARE.

ONTARIO BATTALIONS.			QUÉBEC BATTALIONS.		
Toronto	.....	At front	Montreal	.....	At front
Toronto	.....	" "	Montreal	.....	" "
Toronto	.....	" "	Montreal	.....	" "
Toronto	.....	" "	Montreal	.....	" "
Toronto	.....	" "	Montreal	.....	" "
	—	5	Montreal	.....	" "
	—		Montreal	.....	" "
Toronto	.....	Reserve	Montreal	.....	" "
Toronto	.....	"			— 8
Toronto	.....	"		
Toronto	.....	"	Montreal	.....	Reserve
Toronto	.....	"			— 1
Toronto	.....	"		
Toronto	.....	— 7			

Here we can trace the thirteen infantry battalions of Toronto, five of which are now in the trenches.

A London cable, Dec. 27, confirms our contention that Quebec always had as many combatants in the trenches as had Ontario. Here is what we read in the Montreal Gazette, Dec. 27, 1916, page 2:

(Canadian Associated Press.)

London, Dec. 27.—We are authoritatively informed that a decision has not yet been reached anent sending another Canadian division to the front, but its organization is being completed. What will ultimately be done in this connection will depend largely upon the response obtained for recruits in Canada. For the present, however, the Canadian divisions on the firing line will be maintained and their establishments kept up to full strength.

An adjustment of the representation of battalions in France from the various provinces in Canada is to be undertaken for the purpose of making the distributions more equal in proportion to the number of men recruited.

At the present time Quebec and British Columbia provinces have a larger representation of battalions in France in proportion to the number of men recruited from them, than the other provinces, and in the past it has been necessary to draw reinforcements for these battalions from other centres and an effort is now being made to equalize the representation and replace those thus absorbed. Complete units from Ontario and Nova Scotia are likely to be sent to France.

La Presse was quite right when it claimed more French-Canadians than Ontario-born citizens in the battle of the Somme and at Courcelette. On September 21 it said:

Some French-Canadians are amongst the killed or wounded, even in the ranks of the 48th Highlanders of Toronto. Sir Sam Hughes himself stated that there were 2,500 French-Canadians with the first contingent. Since then, the 22nd, the 41st, the 69th and a great part of the 57th have added 4,000 men to that figure. It is then 6,500 of ours, less the killed and the wounded, in the trenches. Only the ill-will of Orangemen could deny facts as obvious as sunlight in order to show in a better light the zeal of Ontario which is nearly as dark as the night.

We gave Ontario credit for her thirteen regiments at the front, though she had only five, and we added:

"One must not forget that all that has been sent from the Toronto division up to date, in combatant forces is thirteen infantry battalions, or 15,000 men.

"One must not forget that 71½ per cent. of that contingent is composed of immigrants, so that the Toronto division is represented by only 4,271 Ontario native-born in the trenches."

Still remaining within the bounds of truth, we could have stated that Toronto had only five regiments at the front, or 5,750 soldiers, of whom only 28½ per cent. or, in all, 1,615 were native born.

But this would have caused charges of exaggeration: 6,500 French-Canadians against 1,615 Torontonians. But such was the fact acknowledged by an indignant English-Canadian in the columns of the Toronto Telegram.

* * *

We would never have gone into those considerations had not the Toronto newspapers made so much noise with its 150,000 recruits FOR WHICH THEY CLAIM UNDESERVED CREDIT AND WHICH THEY USE UNJUSTLY TO HUMILIATE QUEBEC. Should they subtract from their native population that contribution of outsiders for which their province has no credit, it would be an easy matter for the Quebec press to explain without recrimination why their province gave only 15,000 or 20,000 recruits when the other one gave 42,000.

Ontario has an English born population of 1,813,000, so if we subtract the 508,819 Englishmen, Scotchmen, Irishmen, Germans, Americans and all other Europeans and Asiatics born elsewhere, and its 202,000 French-Canadians, we get, according to the latest statistics, 42,000 recruits, or 2½ per cent. of its population.

But one thousand French-Canadian recruits in Ontario bring that percentage down to 2¼ per cent.

The French-Canadian population of Quebec being 1,605,329, 16,000 recruits make one per cent. of the total. Therefore, the difference in percentage between the two provinces is only of 1¼ per cent.; that is not much to quarrel about. Especially when the most

important question of a better understanding between the two largest provinces is at stake, advantage should not be taken of a surplus or a deficit of $1\frac{1}{4}$ per cent. in favor of one province to insult the other one.

The difference is so small that if Quebec did not discharge her duty Ontario did not either and has no right to reproach.

If Ontario did its duty, Quebec did as well and in the same measure, as Ontario has 450,000 eligibles, British or Canadian born, more than Quebec, in unmarried men and city dwellers after having discounted the immigrants already enlisted and who cannot be counted twice. The 42,000 recruits of Ontario represent nine per cent. of that surplus. At first sight it is obvious that circumstances and hazard placed Ontario in an advantageous position which gives it no excuse for considering itself superior to Quebec.

Should our figure misrepresent the true situation, it would be the duty of Ontario to rectify them before questioning their truthfulness. Our duty shall be then, to accept the rectification and we shall not evade it; even in such an instance we would offer all the excuses possible.

Unfortunately, not one newspaper is willing to make such an admission and we are compelled to use the most striking arguments in order to catch Ontario's attention. We know that the Globe is well disposed towards the French-Canadians. It has proved it quite often; but party requirements do not leave it the liberty to render us as much justice as it would like to do. The News, the Telegram, the Sentinel, etc., have so blinded public opinion on our account that the Globe's defence of French-Canadians would mean the downfall of the Liberal party at the next general elections. Mr. Rowell, who tried that task in the last elections, had to quit.

It is appalling to think that the sole policy of one province should concentrate on the necessity of calumniating the neighboring province. Relations between different parts of the Dominion are no longer based on friendship and good comradeship. Quebec was held up as an enemy, since its existence was attacked.

Now, who are the men of good-will, of strength and of prestige who can stop that nefarious campaign?

* * *

Beside the Toronto Courier, which had sufficient courage to take up the defence of French-Canadians the Toronto Globe is probably the only paper of the Queen City which tried to straighten the biased opinion of the day. Sickened with the hypocritical lamentations which was saturating the air of its city, on Quebec's alleged abstention, it said:

"We hear from all sides complaints regarding the negligence of Quebec to follow the example of Ontario and other provinces in recruiting. . . . The only Ontarians who have a right to criticize Quebec are those who have

already donned the khaki uniform and are preparing to go. . . . But, by what right can the other residents of our province reproach Quebec for doing like themselves? If French-Canadians abstain from going to war do not a large number of ours abstain also? They do not enlist and their sons do not enlist. They complain of the slackness of Quebec without noticing that they are just as slack."

The Sentinel, Aug. 14, was compelled to make the same admission, though giving as an excuse the weak physique of young Ontarians. The queer plea follows:

"It is true that there are slackers in Toronto, but our military division has supplied as many men as the whole province of Quebec. . . . It is true that in our cities and towns we meet on the street many young men who look physically fit. But it should not be forgotten that in the Toronto division, over 20,000 men offered to serve and were rejected. Every week Borden Camp authorized sending back men who were not physically strong enough to stand the strain of training. There are thousands of young men in Ontario ready to enlist if they could stand the exertions required of a soldier."

For a long time Ontario has been disgusted with its own recruiting and the general apathy existing. In the spring of 1915 the Toronto Mail stated very plainly:

Military authorities are not satisfied with the small share of recruiting done in Toronto. People do not enlist by the hundreds as in the past. There are thousands and thousands of young men, unmarried and physically fit who could enlist. But the answer to the call is slower than it was.

In the fall of 1915, the discouragement of newspapers was visible, as indicated in the Mail, Dec. 3.

SLOWING DOWN IN RECRUITING.—Recruiting has fallen under the hundred. There are thousands and thousands of young men, unmarried, physically fit, who ought to enlist but who do not respond to the call."

On December, the 16th, it said again:

"The 109th Regiment celebrated its first anniversary by holding a recruiting meeting in Massey Hall last night. There was a good attendance, but most of the men of military age present were in khaki. This fact was commented on by several of the speakers, who regretted the absence of men to whom recruiting appeals might be addressed. As it was, the appeals were mostly addressed to the ladies present, who were urged to do all in their power to get their eligible male friends to enlist. In fact, the venerable Archdeacon Cody went so far as to tell women of Toronto that they should make it uncomfortable for the young men who took them to entertainments and spent money on them. Not only should they urge these young men to go, but they should DESPISE them if they did not go, the Archdeacon said.

Major le Grand Reed, chief recruiting officer of the Toronto Recruiting Depot, spoke in similar, but even more emphatic, strain. IT WAS A SHOCKING THING, HE SAID, THE YOUNG MEN OF TORONTO HAD NOT TAKEN THIS THING TO HEART. It might be a surprise to some to learn that the majority of those who had enlisted in Toronto were not residents of the city, but it was a fact."

Since then, slackening of recruiting increased steadily.

On August 21, 1916, the Mail was compelled to say:

"Ten recruits accepted yesterday represent the outcome of multiplied efforts to help recruiting in this city. Naturally, staff officers are discouraged. . . ."

The Telegram, Oct. 6, acknowledged very candidly that neither Montreal nor Toronto were supplying men as rapidly as they were killed at the front. It was what had caused Sir Hamar Greenwood to say on the previous day, Oct. 15, before the Canadian Club of Toronto:

"The last recruiting reports show that gaps in the ranks of the Canadian army will have to be filled by others than Canadians, which will be a lasting shame on Canada."

On November 24, 1916, the Telegram gave the strength of regiments being recruited in Toronto, some of them for twelve months:

Over six thousand men are needed to complete the establishment of the fifteen battalions of the Toronto military district. **Only one** of them musters near the number of men called for, and three of them are under half strength. The 198th Battalion tops all others in regard to numbers, but the battalion intends to obtain a few more men before going overseas, and has opened a recruiting station on Bay street for that purpose.

To complete the establishment of an infantry battalion, 1,118 officers and men are required. The infantry units in the Toronto military district muster as follows:

164th Battalion	680	215th Battalion	509
176th Battalion	639	216th Battalion	867
177th Battalion	771	220th Battalion	637
182nd Battalion	337	227th Battalion	879
198th Battalion	1,018	228th Battalion	806
204th Battalion	990	234th Battalion	414
205th Battalion	629		
208th Battalion	796		
213th Battalion	372	Total	10,344

On November 20, the Globe showed, by a correspondence from Guelph that such an indifference was general throughout Ontario:

Guelph, Nov. 28.—A squad of five men, under Capt. Hindson, from the 153rd Battalion, came in here on Friday night to recruit, and up till tonight they had secured but one recruit, and they have been busy, in season and out of season. An absolute indifference to the matter, they claim, and it is the hardest thing to overcome.

They requested permission to speak in the largest movie house here, and the manager informed them that the last time the recruiters had been there **his business for the following three nights had fallen off a total of one hundred dollars**, and he had been told by many of the patrons that if recruiting speeches were continued at the movies they would not attend.

Recruiters working in the district find that many of the young men whom they counted on getting after the harvest have now gone to the munition factories. As one disappointed recruiter put it, after a fruitless trip, **"they would rather make shells at \$3.50 a day than shoot them at \$1.10."**

And on December 4:

"Woodstock, Dec. 3—The time has passed when the Government should **graciously permit** Canada's young manhood to enlist. What has been found necessary in the handling of munition contracts and general war orders has

been found imperative in connection with the recruiting problem now confronting the Dominion."

On December 6, the Mail and Empire said:

"Under the most favorable auspices a new organization to stimulate recruiting and to care for the wants of the soldiers came into being at Massey Hall last night.

The Bishop of Toronto said it was **unfortunate that it was necessary to plead with men to induce them to enlist.** It ought to be the other way round. They should be so eager to go that it would be necessary to restrain them.

"Mrs. H. Parsons, who has three sons at the front, in simple, fervent language, made an eloquent appeal to the women to do more than they had done for the cause. It was time for all to wake up and realize what glorious opportunities were before them. The best Christmas present they could send to the men in the trenches was reinforcements. She urged the women to get men.

Rev. Logan Geggie declared it **WAS A SHAME AND DISGRACE TO TORONTO that there should be so many young men who failed to realize that they were needed at the front."**

The Telegram of Dec. 11 tells us the great success achieved by three officers and twelve men in an Ontario rural district:

"It took three officers and twelve men three days' work in one Ontario rural district to get two recruits, declared Lieut. A. C. Trivett, recently returned from the front, speaking at a recruiting meeting at Massey Hall, last night."

Finally, the Mail made a full confession in its issue of Dec. 12:

DEADLY APATHY.—Canada is heart and soul with Britain in this war. Canada will if necessary give her last man and last dollar to destroy the military power of Germany. **But the brave words are not followed by any new rush to join the colors.** We can all join chestfully in the singing when the orchestra tickles our ears with the moving strains of "We'll Never Let the Old Flag Fall." It is safe to say that hundreds of thousands of those who talk glibly about the war every day of their lives **have little serious thought behind their superabundance of words.** We are convinced that there would be more recruiting **if there were less talking.** None but persons with the **heedlessness of insanity** could go on in their old selfish ways and at the same time be possessed of the right idea of the gravity of the Prussian peril. There are many degrees of knowledge that many Canadians have of the dangers our overseas forces are helping to shield us from. So far from setting the more careless ones thinking and resolving, **the war has scarcely scraped the surface of their consciousness. It is not by bombastic talkers,** and not by incompetent recruiting sergeants, that the process of education in the real meaning of this war can be carried on. Every man of mature years who has a due sense of the danger should exert himself to spread that sense among the eligible men about him. The churches are expected to do their part. Some of them are doing it, and others fondly imagine they are doing it. **Nobody can do much to rouse others who himself is not tremendously in earnest.**

The Ontario "Jingoes" now see what it is to be left alone, without the help of the immigrants, now nearly all drained.

* * *

Since Ontario has exhausted its reserve of English born recruits,

of unmarried and city dwellers who were as free as God's air, recruiting is just as hard as in Quebec, if not harder! All the papers of the Province are unanimous on that point.

We would have the right to belittle the patriotism of Toronto, were we not acquainted with the near impossibility of dragging away from their business and from their families young men who are bound by all kinds of obligations, in a country where everyone must work. If the Toronto pressmen who are well acquainted with the particular situation of Quebec had shown more spirit of brotherhood and more tolerance for a condition of things normal, which became also that of Ontario after the elimination of a deceiving surplus, they would not be submitted to the humiliations of to-day.

That is why they did not dare to challenge the assertions of a far-seeing correspondent signing himself "British-Born," who wrote the following and severe truth:

"One of our newspapers, with an ability worthy of a better cause, places from time to time at the head of its recruiting tables, some titles like "Canadians lead." For that, it has to divide the classes of immigrants into Englishmen, Scotchmen and Irishmen, so that ours may be at the head of individual groups. Canadians will lead when they will enlist at the rate of 4½ against 1 English immigrant. Do what you please, there is one clear thing, that the source of English recruits is exhausted, practically, and it now belongs to Canadians by birth to do their share; a matter in which they have lamentably failed. After the daily recruiting reports, it is clear that the promised 500,000 recruits will not be had without compulsion of some kind. The patent fact is that the majority of the natives do not want to enlist, in spite of any argument, in spite of all persuasion."

There is no danger that the Ontario papers should publish next to these declarations, printed in small type, their denunciations of the Province of Quebec. But truth will make its way without them and in spite of them. Ontarians do not enlist with the infantry.

Dr. Norman Allan, a man of wide knowledge, who is president of the Toronto Recruiting League, was right when he said, in April last, **"that the native population of Quebec could stand the comparison, in recruiting, with the native population of other provinces."** (Toronto Globe.)

For that simple word of truth, he lost the presidency of the league.

This is why the Telegram published nonsense when it declared, on April 13, that the remarks of Dr. Allan would hurt recruiting, since the Ontario natives were compared to the rebellious sons of Quebec.

It said :

"Can the above be accepted as an accurate statement of Dr. Norman Allan's words to the Citizens' Recruiting League yesterday?

"If so, the Citizens' Recruiting League should either **find a new presiding officer or disappear from the face of the earth.**

"A Citizens' recruiting League that permits the native-born sons of Ontario to be described as the same sort of non-recruitable population as the native-born sons of Quebec is an obstacle, not an aid, to recruiting.

"Fathers and mothers in the farm-houses, villages and towns and cities of this province have sent thousands of native Canadian sons to fight the battles of liberty. Where can Dr. Norman Allan bring facts or figures to support his ignorant declaration that the same proportion of sons have gone from the homes of Quebec to fight for the life of two French-speaking and Roman Catholic nations? "

* * *

The great recruiting movement in Ontario ceased with the draining of the floating population born in the British Isles and for a short time living here. We followed that recruiting carefully. It was of a few units every day for each battalion.

When the number of Canadians was in excess of that of the English, the papers would boast.

It is a fact that should we be able to produce the daily figures of foreign recruits enlisted in Ontario, the proportion of 28½ per cent. as given by Senator Mason would be found to be right.

From the beginning of enlistment, English immigration, counting 157,931 males above 21 years in Ontario (page 457, vol. 2, Census) flocked to the recruiting quarters, and Quebec had only 28,000 of them. Up to May 15 last, Ontario immigrants had supplied 92,000 men out of 135,278 recruits, or 60 per cent. of their total number. It is very easy to understand that all their available population was drained. That is why, during the following six months, the province could not give more than 15,000 new recruits, of whom 10,730 were immigrants. It explains too, how, between June 15 and December 15, the native population of Ontario could not supply more than 3,219 recruits, in spite of a first class organization. How can it look down to Montreal?

As we said previously, we must confine ourselves to our figures regarding Toronto because the Militia Office refuse to publish any official data. Here is a table which is of no small interest. The Telegram, by singling out the days that gave the best showing to the native born population of Toronto, threw some light on the real facts.

Here is the table compiled for 88 days recruiting selected by the Telegram:

THE 88 MOST FAVORABLE DAYS FOR TORONTO NATIVE-BORN ACCORDING TO THE TELEGRAM

April. Immig. Na- tives	July. Immig. Na- tives	Sept. Immig. Na- tives	Nov. Immig. Na- tives
18 . . 61 . . 44	4 . . 28 . . 29	7 . . 11 . . 11	1 . . 6 . . 6
19 . . 22 . . 25	7 . . 29 . . 19	8 . . 15 . . 8	4 . . 8 . . 8
28 . . 24 . . 24	11 . . 29 . . 24	9 . . 25 . . 13	7 . . 17 . . 11
May	19 . . 12 . . 18	11 . . 21 . . 4	8 . . 4 . . 14
2 . . 51 . . 58	27 . . 21 . . 7	15 . . 9 . . 4	9 . . 14 . . 7
3 . . 43 . . 40	28 . . 18 . . 10	19 . . 23 . . 13	10 . . 7 . . 8
5 . . 29 . . 17	August.	20 . . 11 . . 5	15 . . 7 . . 8
8 . . 19 . . 21	9 . . 30 . . 20	22 . . 7 . . 6	16 . . 8 . . 18
11 . . 42 . . 39	10 . . 10 . . 11	23 . . 4 . . 8	17 . . 5 . . 8
18 . . 41 . . 24	12 . . 17 . . 10	26 . . 12 . . 14	18 . . 3 . . 2
19 . . 21 . . 22	14 . . 4 . . 3	28 . . 16 . . 17	20 . . 11 . . 6
20 . . 17 . . 26	15 . . 19 . . 11	30 . . 9 . . 12	22 . . 4 . . 4
22 . . 22 . . 22	17 . . 10 . . 8	October	23 . . 5 . . 5
23 . . 41 . . 31	19 . . 14 . . 4	2 . . 5 . . 0	24 . . 8 . . 7
30 . . 43 . . 25	21 . . 9 . . 4	3 . . 12 . . 14	25 . . 1 . . 5
June.	22 . . 22 . . 16	4 . . 7 . . 6	28 . . 5 . . 9
2 . . 16 . . 12	23 . . 21 . . 11	5 . . 5 . . 8	December.
6 . . 44 . . 23	24 . . 12 . . 5	7 . . 8 . . 13	2 . . 5 . . 10
7 . . 12 . . 15	29 . . 8 . . 13	10 . . 11 . . 19	4 . . 9 . . 11
9 . . 19 . . 17	30 . . 4 . . 5	11 . . 7 . . 13	5 . . 7 . . 7
20 . . 41 . . 52	31 . . 5 . . 5	14 . . 5 . . 10	1,396
21 . . 14 . . 19	September.	27 . . 3 . . 4	1,096
24 . . 15 . . 12	1 . . 12 . . 5	28 . . 3 . . 12	
28 . . 21 . . 11	2 . . 12 . . 2	30 . . 5 . . 5	
29 . . 19 . . 17	4 . . 13 . . 1		

If from April 17 to December 5, inclusive, that is 195 days of recruiting, the 88 most favorable days gave the native population a proportion of only 46 per cent. on the 2,592 recruits, it is not hard to conclude that during the other 107 days there was a gap of 17 or 18 per cent. between the original proportion established by Senator Mason: 28½ per cent. The contrary would be impossible.

Let us not forget that the Mail's correspondent was writing a hard truth when he said that "to be within a fair proportion, Ontario citizensborn should have" **SUPPLIED FOUR RECRUITS AGAINST EACH ONE SUPPLIED BY IMMIGRANTS WHILE IT WAS THE CONTRARY THAT HAPPENED."**

THE MOTIVES AS WELL AS THE FACILITIES FOR ENLISTMENT WERE, NATURALLY, SMALLER WITH THE FRENCH-CANADIANS THAN WITH THE ONTARIANS.

The backwardness of recruitment in Quebec was brought into the limelight by interested denunciations. It is about the same as in every other country and if there is a place where that backwardness is more pronounced than elsewhere, it is in the City of Toronto where recruiting has practically ceased for some time past.

Ontario is now at the point where Quebec was at the beginning, as Quebec never could draw on a floating element.

Our confrere also brings to the front which has always existed for Quebec, when he says:

"Here, business is improving; unemployment has disappeared **SO THAT ENLISTING HAS BECOME A GREATER PERSONAL SACRIFICE."**

To be true, we never had any loafers here; from the first day,

our volunteers were not driven by the need of the day: they were influenced to make this sacrifice by the purest motives of patriotism.

What is now going on in England shows, after all, that patriotism is very often secondary to other imperative considerations. It cannot be said that the English rising generation is not aware of the danger threatening their country. They are living in the real shadow of the war. Nevertheless, after the most complete and systematised organization and a registration pretty close to conscription, the Earl of Derby had to acknowledge that his plan did not succeed as well as he had anticipated it would. There also, with the exhaustion of the underpaid employes, volunteering began to slacken.

IV.

UNMARRIED MEN ARE MORE IN NUMBER IN ONTARIO THAN IN QUEBEC.

Having shown the moral reasons that make it impossible to compare Ontario recruiting figures with those of Quebec, we are now going to see the economic and social sides of the question, which are just as conclusive and which render voluntary recruiting almost impossible.

Between Quebec and Ontario, all the controversy about recruiting rests on the following figures:

	Male population between 17 and 45 years.	Living in towns.	Unmarried.
Ontario	515,448	186,000	67,820
Quebec	342,149	135,440	36,686

It is obvious that by comparing the unmarried male population of the two provinces, on which to base for each its military quota, when there are 42,000 native recruits for Ontario, the similar proportion for Quebec must be 21,000. If we take those living in cities and towns, when 186,000 supplied 42,000, 135,000 should give 30,000.

We can make that as clear as daylight, to the confusion of the hot heads who claim that Quebec is behind by 100,000 recruits.

Quebec would have supplied those 100,000 volunteers if it had the 100,000 immigrants of Ontario who enlisted in Ontario.

If we confine ourselves to a comparison of the two populations, of Ontario and Quebec, 2,523,274 for one, and 2,003,232 for the other, in order to decide what quota should be expected from each, we are in serious error. The office which decided, by a simple arithmetical proportion, to assign 185,000 to Ontario and 139,000 to Quebec showed lack of competence in dealing with figures. That work should have been given to experts.

Official statistics give as follows the best means of figuring the male population of military age, in the two provinces.

We take the figures in the Canada Year Book, for 1914, page 68:

	Ontario.	Quebec.
Age 15 to 19 years	122,631	100,554
" 20 to 24 years	127,710	90,931
" 25 to 29 years	119,854	77,949
" 30 to 34 years	101,860	67,261
" 35 to 39 years	88,871	57,239
" 40 to 44 years	77,153	48,069
" 45 to 49 years	68,456	41,576
" 50 to 54 years	59,648	36,819
	<hr/> 766,183	<hr/> 520,398

Instead of calculating the fighting force of each province, the figures used included women and children. While Quebec's population is smaller by 500,000 than that of Ontario, it has a majority of boys and girls over Ontario, 31,601 children ranging in age from one day to 14 years as is shown, page 68 of the Year Book, and which we give to explain the difference between a blind repartition and a sensible one.

Total population by five-year periods:

	Ontario.	Quebec.
Under 1 year	53,427	62,694
Age 1 to 4 years	208,794	228,372
" 5 to 9 years	243,233	256,835
" 10 to 14 years	233,018	222,172
	<hr/> 738,472	<hr/> 770,073
		<hr/> 738,472

Majority for Quebec 31,601

Why did the militia authorities assign as their share, 185,000 men to Ontario and 139,000 to Quebec? If 766,163 must supply 185,000, it is obvious that 520,398 must not supply more than 125,500.

First error against Quebec of 13,500.

* * *

An important element in the composition of an army of volunteers is the relative liberty of the unmarried and the obligations of the wedded. Great Britain herself has given her opinion on that point by establishing conscription for the unmarried only.

The census returns are not very clear on this point, since they give under one head, all the unmarried, ranging from one day to one hundred years old, thus giving 762,230 to Ontario and 637,113 to Quebec. It is therefore necessary to make an incidental demonstration to get the number of unmarried of military service age.

We note on page 68 of the Canada Year Book that the male population of Quebec, under twenty years, is 486,077. But with

few exceptions, all these are unmarried. There are still 151,038 unmarried men over twenty years of age in Quebec.

The unmarried men of Ontario number 720,230, of whom 497,154 are boys under twenty years. Then, there are in Ontario 265,476 unmarried men above twenty years of age, or 114,040 more in Ontario than in Quebec in a condition that permits of their immediate enlistment.

The proportion between married and unmarried, above twenty years of age is therefore in the two provinces as follows:

	Married.	Unmarried
Ontario	466,960	265,178
Quebec	374,387	151,038

The unmarried men of Ontario comprise 36½ per cent. of the available force while those of Quebec comprise only 29 per cent. By taking 36½ per cent. of the 185,000 ascribed to Ontario, there must be 67,820 unmarried recruits, while Quebec with 29 per cent. of the 125,500 ascribed to it, has only 36,686.

Here is the natural advantage of the 31,134 of Ontario over Quebec.

If the Militia Department had taken notice of that, it would have said that the arithmetic proportion between 265,000 and 151,000 in computing the share to be ascribed to Quebec when Ontario was given 185,000, makes that share of Quebec 106,000 and **not** 139,000.

A second error of 31,134.

V.

FRENCH-CANADIANS DO NOT LIVE IN TOWNS.

Who does not know that recruiting is an easier problem in cities and towns than in rural districts? And who does not know that Ontario's population in cities and towns is 25 per cent. larger than that of Quebec? One has but to refer to page 530, first volume of the census, table X.

Out of 100,000 recruits, an advantage of 27 per cent. is no small affair.

Mr. E. H. MacLean, paymaster of the 23rd battalion, and, by the way an Orangeman, published by the end of June last, a booklet intended to stimulate recruiting. In it we find the following figures:

Rural population of Canada	4,000,000
Urban population of Canada	4,000,000
Rural recruits	14,200
Urban recruits	248,000

The Toronto papers followed suit in these efforts to stimulate recruiting in rural districts without realizing that they were explaining the apparent abstention of Quebec.

Why should the rural districts of Quebec do more than those of Ontario?

All the recruiting was done in the cities, because the population of a city is more willing to enlist. The census gives us the following figures:

Population of Ontario cities	1,328,499
Population of Quebec cities	970,096

In favor of Ontario 358,355

Moreover, recruiting campaigns are much more effective in cities than in the country; it should not be forgotten that Ontario has 148 cities and towns, and Quebec only 72. Our population is spread all over the country, while more than one-half of that of Ontario is settled in organized centres.

For Quebec the importance of cities is of recent date. In 1871, the urban population was of only 194,100, which means that nearly the whole population lived on farms. Even in 1901, the urban population was only 656,000, and the present city dwellers are, for the greater part, old farmers still imbued with the idea of tranquillity and carelessness which is characteristic to the country life.

What is good in Ontario is also good in Quebec. Ontario having no rural recruiting, why should Quebec be compelled to have any?

The mistake in the calculation regarding urban population is not very large where Quebec is concerned, only 8,000. But it is of greater importance when applied to French-Canadians, since the English-speaking population of Quebec reside mostly in towns. The whole French population of Montreal, Quebec, Maisonneuve, Hull, Sorel, Sherbrooke, Valleyfield, Joliette, Levis, Lachine, Verdun, St. Johns, and Fraserville, that is, all places having a population of over 5,000 is, so far as recruiting is concerned, only 520,000. Take the five following cities, mentioned in the census:

	French Canadians	English, Scotch Irish and others
Montréal	298,878	170,491
Québec	68,080	10,630
Maisonneuve	15,203	3,681
Hull	16,416	1,812
Sherbrooke	10,766	5,634
	<hr/> 409,353	<hr/> 182,248

The five cities only reduce the French population by 47 per cent. Of the 398,000 inhabitants of Quebec of any other origin than French, 360,000 are living in towns, which reduces the French urban population to 610,000.

Hence, if the urban population of Ontario, with its 1,328,499 souls, must supply 185,000 soldiers, a French urban population of 610,000 must supply only 80,000.

The miscalculation in the official count is **59,000**, and since all the argument is about the cities, this falsity of calculation is exceedingly grave, because it is misleading other provinces and the whole world about French-Canadians.

The fact was acknowledged in Ontario itself; the rural districts gave only **14,000** recruits. In making comparisons, these comparisons must be set aside. Therefore, when we come to REAL RECRUITING we have to oppose to Ontario a population of **520,000**, including women and children. That means 43 per cent. of what Ontario can offer. And 43 per cent. of 185,000 is **80,000**.

The error of **59,000** is well proven.

No calculation can offer an escape to the following proportions:

Proportion assigned to Quebec	139,000
Less corrections in the male population.....	13,500
Corrections in unmarried population	31,134
Corrections as to population	59,000
	<hr/> 103,634
What should be the French-Canadian contingent.....	35,366

Another method of calculation, giving the same results is hereby given as a confirmation of the former.

We know that the male population of military age, that is between 17 and 45 years, is 407,365 for the province of Quebec. (Table 21, Canada Year Book, page 68.)

To establish the French-Canadian proportion, it is necessary to consult table XII of the census, page 369, Vol. 2, where we find that French-Canadian males number 804,368 out of a total of 1,011,502, or, 80 per cent.

Eighty per cent. of 407,365 of military age is 326,600. It is the only group on which we must calculate.

Since the rural population does not count in the recruiting **of any province**, all that we must determine is how many recruits can be supplied by cities and towns. An urban population of 970,094 against a rural population of 1,032,618 does not give the fair proportion of French-Canadians, as to recruiting, because the English-speaking and the foreign elements live especially in the cities. Those elements must be set aside in our calculations, if we want to find the real number of French-Canadians living in cities, which is 610,000 souls.

Two other points must also be established: 1. What is the proportion of males in those 610,000? 2. What is the number of men between 17 and 45 years of age?

It is easy to ascertain the sex, as The Canada Year Book gives 1,011,502 males and 991,730 females. The difference is one per cent. Then, the male French-Canadian population of cities is 338,600.

How many of these are of military age? It is simple to decide

when we know that out of 1,001,502 there are 407,365 between 17 and 45 years. That is 40 per cent. of the total. If we take 40 per cent. out of the 338,600, we have 135,000 French-Canadians.

Now, what is the corresponding force for Ontario? The Canada Year Book gives 564,500 men between 18 and 45 years.

What is the proportion of the Ontario native-born population in these 564,500? We know by the census (page 442, Vol. 2), that Ontario has a male British-born population of 1,001,003 born in Canada, and 298,297 born elsewhere. The Ontario native population is therefore 70 per cent. of the total, which gives 395,150 men of military age.

Now, what is the proportion of living in cities? The census tells us again: 1,194,785 against 1,328,489 in the rural districts, or $47\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. The percentage of $47\frac{1}{2}$ on 395,050 gives 186,000 native Ontarians of military age living in cities.

If a population of 186,000 combatants gives a contingent of 42,000, a population of 135,460, that of Quebec must, to keep in the same proportion, give 30,000 men.

That is all that should be expected from Quebec without taking in account its low proportion of unmarried. With its 636,931 unmarried against Ontario's 732,330, Quebec is at a disadvantage of 14 per cent.

Therefore it is necessary to make a reduction of 14 per cent. out of the 30,000, that is 4,200, which brings the contingent to 25,800.

Enough said, that French-Canadians are slackers. THEY HAVE NO IMMIGRANTS TO SWELL THEIR RANKS.

THEY HAVE A SMALLER PROPORTION OF UNMARRIED.
THEIR CITY AND TOWN POPULATION IS SMALLER.

Why should not the Ontario newspapermen, who cannot be converted by these figures try at least to refute them, instead of ignoring them. Their process is far from being fair and honest.

THIS IS AN OPEN CHALLENGE TO ALL THOSE WHO ARE INCLINED TO COMPLAIN THAT FRENCH-CANADIANS ARE GUILTY OF SLACKNESS AND INDOLENCE. OUR CALUMNIATORS CANNOT FIND FAULT WITH ONE OF OUR FIGURES.

CONCLUSION.

QUITE TIME TO STOP THE CRUSADE OF DISUNION.

The Ontario papers saw falsities and insults in the articles of La Presse accusing Ontario of decking itself in peacock's feathers. We resent as much as our Ontario confreres the injury to the sister province. But are they in the slightest way moved by the injuries so unfairly poured on Quebec? If, sometimes, we are carried to conclusions that are found "cruel and pitiless," by "The Globe," it is because Ontario papers carefully avoid any admission of the fact,

though it is as clear as daylight that three-fourths of their contingent are composed of immigrants.

Newspapers have adopted such an attitude, because from time to time a handful of French-Canadians express views that are apparently anti-British and at which they are surprised. Those outbreaks are easy to explain. The devotion of French-Canadians for the English Crown is second to none. But sometimes, a clan, without weighing the consequences of a disloyalty that is more from the lips than from the heart, yields to the temptation when a chance offers, to get even with a highly provoking class of English-Canadians who never miss an opportunity for attacking, depreciating and insulting our compatriots.

It is the eternal inclination to take advantage of a detractor of all the meanness that passes by, and if needs be: to cut one's nose to spite one's face that has driven very few French-Canadians to such excesses.

Our English compatriots, knowing the small number amongst them who live on those dangerous provocations will remonstrate and claim that we are unfair and too exacting when, with all those who are fair, we humiliate those who have insulted us. They will be right, but we cannot remodel human nature. A few drops of bitters are sufficient to change the taste and the color of a whole jugful, and the untrained eye is unable to trace and separate the particles that carry the bitterness.

We profess the deepest respect for the majority of our English-speaking compatriots and we wish them to bear in mind that Great Britain has but one enemy in Canada; they comprise a small number of Anglo-Saxons, calling themselves such, and whom we hereby depict.

We do not intend to define a thesis that could aim from far or near, the large majority. On the contrary, we believe that that majority will willingly learn how a handful of villains is misrepresenting its spirit of toleration for some mean personal ambitions which, in the end, may assume the proportions of a crime.

When, with the minutest care, Great Britain is ignoring all differences of race or creed in its colonies, while she is giving all her subjects equal rights with a wide and enlightened protection, a few of her sons, generally born in the British Isles, and who landed here with no other baggage than that which was wrapped in their handkerchiefs, think they are conquerors of this country. Stone by stone they are trying to demolish the monument of Great Britain's benevolence. They came here as beggars but soon they are on horseback, as prosperity in Canada is easy for the willing to attain. But the widening of their purse did not alter the narrowness of their mind. They are seditious and ambitious; lacking in fundamental education and in the knowledge required of solid and serious public men, they must, to reach their aims, fool the credulity of their compatriots.

Such vile prejudices do not exist in England, and those immigrants who are well-off when they arrive from the mother-country are exceedingly tolerant and liberal in everything, as are, after all, every sensible man who has grown up with our country. Fanaticism is of a local growth and the craving for such a bitter fruit is classed with the dope fiendishness.

The gruesome success of our intolerant brothers is not surprising. The Englishman is cool-headed and kind; in everything his ideas are broad and sound. As he attends to his business, he does not pay any attention to talk and agitation; when the ringleaders, having sufficiently prepared the opinion, drag him away from his occupation and stuff him with prejudices he cannot see the truth.

It cannot be expected that Englishmen will read our papers, visit our families and mix with our gatherings. They learn of our life, our habits and our ideals from what they are told by some who pretend to know. A thorough Englishman is invariably amiable, generous and sympathetic for the French-Canadians of his class whom he meets on common ground. But he does not know that at the end of those charming relations in which have disappeared all differences of character, of language and of creed, some ringleaders are breeding hatred and discord, out of which they earn their bread and which they use as their stepping stone in their ambition for influence.

Those prejudice-mongers oppose us, inch by inch, the most legitimately acquired ground: official positions, high or low, and the modest influence that we claim as plain British subjects since we do not wish to be anything else.

The maintenance of our small rights, of our small situation, or of our small numerical advantages in the province is at the cost of a continuous struggle. Is it surprising that those who have no opportunity of meeting the real Englishman should hold a misconception of British greatness? When one or two papers, even if they are insignificant, launch an attack against the French-Canadians, they believe it is all the English press. After all, that is quite natural, and three or four foolish cartoons published by vulgar Parisian papers were enough to rouse the population of the whole United Kingdom. What happened once in England is being repeated here, against us, every six months.

The French-Canadian whipped, harassed and humiliated by that cotery of experts in misrepresentation, becomes surly, suspicious and indifferent to British interests. And why should he give his heart to things pertaining to Great Britain when so much trouble was taken to make him believe that England for him is nothing but a harsh step-mother? He has not the means to see beyond his own small circle.

You, who are the large majority in this country, would like to find with the mass of the French-Canadians that blind and burning faith which fills the warm heart of the English patriot. But

some of you destroy or throw in the shade that faith, by their unceasing vexations, their childish distrust, all pin-pricks that are more painful than sword thrusts.

As these pin-pricks are generally imperceptible and do not leave any apparent traces, those who are not their victims have no idea of what a smarting and lasting pain they may cause.

In spite of all that, the French-Canadian has no hatred and no prejudice against his English compatriot. In that assertion, we appeal to all business men: did one of them ever notice that his business place was deserted by a French-Canadian because the keeper was English, not only in cities, but in the remotest country? Off hand we could give fifty names of Englishmen who have built up a fortune in places that were exclusively French-speaking. The truth is that we do not discriminate between an English or a French-speaking merchant.

Only when there comes a crisis such as this, in which the habitual firebrands wish to drive us on with the whip, there is an awakening of the peaceful French-Canadian, an undefinable reluctance with a tendency to increase with the violence used. If you want him to lose absolutely his affection for Great Britain, innocent as she may be of those dangerous methods, let the firebrands continue to lavish their insults on him.

It is true that anger will soon die in the soft heart of those irritated lambs. But what shall you do for the younger generation which does not understand so readily and which resents more vividly? Think of the generation of insubordinates and of agitators that is being bred through the fault of a few of your hot heads!

Our English compatriots may feel surprised at this new tone. Is it not better though to make a clean breast of it by speaking frankly than to allow a continuance of the brewing that ferments regrets, and grievances, resentment and useless fears? Minorities are always on the alert, and we are a minority.

To men of good will we appeal for a better guiding of public opinion. No great sacrifices, no gigantic efforts are needed. It is enough that we keep quietly nourishing a sense of security at home, as others are doing.

We know that the big newspapers of Ontario are friendly towards French-Canadians. They have frequently shown it; but the unreasonable demands of party politics do not allow them to give us as much justice as they would like to give. The News, the Telegram, the Sentinel, the Kingston Standard, etc., have poisoned public opinion on our account to such a degree that the defence of French-Canadians would be the ruin of the political party that would endorse it. Mr. Rowell undertook it at the last elections, and he had to retrace his steps.

It is appalling to think that the whole policy of one province

should concentrate on the necessity of calumniating the neighbor province.

Relations between component parts of Confederation are no longer based on friendship and companionship. Quebec is compelled to think it is in an enemy country because its existence is attacked. On August 29 last, we were thrown out of the British Empire by the Telegram, in the following terms:

"Canadian soldiers and their friends must not vote shoulder to shoulder with the neutral racialists of Quebec and the Austro-Germans of Alberta and Saskatchewan who hate England."

On September 13, it added:

"The one million population of New Zealand is all recruitable, because New Zealand is exclusively of British origin. It is not the same with Canada of which 3,000,000 out of 8,000,000 inhabitants are French of Quebec or Austro-Germans."

The News of August 19 last said:

"It is true, we believe, that the French ecclesiastics oppose recruiting in Quebec. It is not only a few cures that are hostile. The feeling extends from cures to bishops and from bishops to archbishops. Certain appeals have been made in order to disarm criticism in English-speaking communities, but unquestionably the influence of the Quebec clergy has been exercised to prevent recruiting. It is said that only two or three cures in the whole Province favor participation of Quebec in the war and that in cases spiritual penalties have been threatened when young men have shown a determination to enlist."

N.B.—This being a translation from French copy it was in some instances impossible to secure the original text of many of the quotations made. The text was re-translated from a French version in the best of good faith and in the hope that no misconstruction would be charged.

Canada's Greatest French Agricultural Paper

Outside of the cities and large towns of Quebec Province, there are hundreds of thousands of village and rural people who never see a *daily* newspaper. These people are the backbone of Quebec's great agricultural wealth—the actual producers.

83 per cent of these people are French-speaking citizens whose annual profit averages nearly \$1,000 after rent and such expenses have been paid, leaving the farmer and his family this tidy sum to spend upon necessities and luxuries.

In 45,000 of the prosperous rural homes, the only newspaper ever seen is

The Farmers' Weekly — LA PRESSE

People who only see a newspaper once a week are pretty sure to read it thoroughly and this is the reason the **FARMERS' WEEKLY LA PRESSE** one of the most profitable mail order and general advertising mediums in Canada. The subscribers to the **FARMERS' WEEKLY LA PRESSE** are news-hungry and when their meal does arrive, they go through every course from editorial matter to advertisements.

If you are out for large profit from a small investment, get particulars in reference to the **FARMERS' WEEKLY LA PRESSE**. Its news and editorial politics are the same as those of **LA PRESSE** and it is just as popular and influential in its own field, as the daily edition is in the cities and large towns of Canada where French is spoken.

For particulars apply to the Advertising Manager.

The Farmers' Weekly **LA PRESSE** MONTREAL - CANADA.

CIRCULATION : 45.000

BRANCHES:

TORONTO, ONT.
TELEPHONE Bldg.

NEW YORK CITY
5th AVENUE Bldg.

CHICAGO, ILL.
TRIBUNE, Bldg.

The Growth of an Idea

Prior to 1884, LA PRESSE was not much more than an idea in the mind of a man who desired to give the French-speaking Canadians a newspaper in their own language, free from all political or other influence—a newspaper, the primary object of which would be to work unceasingly for the advancement and welfare of the French Canadian race in perfect harmony with the English-speaking people of the Dominion.

In 1884, this idea had developed in concrete form and resulted in what is, to-day, known as LA PRESSE—Canada's largest circulating and one of its most influential daily newspapers. And from 1884 up to the present time, the efforts of this man, the late Honourable T. Berthiaume and of those who have succeeded him, have been concentrated, without deviation, upon the fulfillment of this conception.

The articles in this booklet give a fair idea of how LA PRESSE handles topics of national importance and the proof that the publishers' policy has been a good one is shown by the tremendous circulation and the national influence LA PRESSE enjoys to-day.

LA PRESSE is the national newspaper of the French Canadian race; it is not affiliated with any political party and is free to lend its influence to anything which it considers to be of benefit to its readers.

The Advertising Value of LA PRESSE

As an advertising medium, LA PRESSE is as popular as it is as a newspaper. Its great influence and large circulation, combined with its relatively low advertising rates, have resulted in its constant use by practically every large local and foreign advertiser. Through the columns of LA PRESSE, advertisers are enabled to reach practically all the buyers among the French-speaking people who make up about 70 per cent of the total population of Montreal and suburbs.

LA PRESSE is an absolute necessity to any advertiser doing business in Montreal or Quebec Province. To those already doing business here, as well as to those contemplating doing so, we will be pleased to give any desired information upon application to the *Advertising Manager*.

LA PRESSE

MONTREAL, - CANADA.

Circulation - OVER 140.000 Daily
Saturday's - OVER 150.000

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TORONTO, ONT.
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